

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The listing of claims below replaces all prior versions of claims in the application.

1-2. (Cancelled)

3. (Previously Presented): The humidity-dependent antibacterial food storing article according to Claim 7, wherein the water-soluble film forming agent is gum arabic.

4. (Previously Presented): The humidity-dependent antibacterial food storing article according to Claim 7, wherein the composition further comprises a powder vehicle.

5. (Previously Presented): The humidity-dependent antibacterial food storing article according to Claim 7, wherein the composition shows the behavior of release wherein the releasing ratio of the volatile oily antibacterial substance at 100% humidity is 1.5 times or more than the releasing ratio of the volatile oily antibacterial substance at 75% humidity.

6. (Currently Amended-Withdrawn): A process for producing a humidity-dependent antibacterial food storing article ~~powdery composition~~ according to claim 7, in which the behavior of release of a volatile oily antibacterial substance is changed depending on humidity, characterized in that a water-soluble film forming agent optionally together with a powder vehicle is dissolved and/or dispersed in water, subsequently a volatile oily antibacterial substance

optionally together with an emulsifying agent is added to the solution and emulsified, and thereafter the obtained emulsion is spray dried into powder, and

mixing the powder composition in a resin which is formed into or coated onto an article.

7. (Currently Amended): A humidity-dependent antibacterial food storing article, the food storing article ~~composition~~ comprising[[:]] a resin into which a humidity-dependent antibacterial powdery composition has been mixed, said humidity-dependent antibacterial powdery composition comprising:

a volatile oily antibacterial substance and a water-soluble film forming agent, wherein the behavior of release of the antibacterial substance changes depending on humidity,

wherein said humidity-dependent antibacterial powdery composition comprises an aggregate of hygroscopic spherical-shaped capsule particles enclosing the volatile oily antibacterial substance;

said capsule particles comprise a water-soluble film forming agent; and

said volatile oily antibacterial substance is an isothiocyanate ester.

8. (Withdrawn): A method of storing food characterized in that a volatile oily antibacterial substance is released from a humidity-dependent antibacterial food storing article according to Claim 7 toward food lying in an atmosphere of 70% or higher humidity.

9. (Previously Presented): The humidity-dependent antibacterial food storing article according to claim 7, wherein the food storing article is selected from the group consisting of synthetic resin film, nonwoven fabric, paper, tray, sheet, bags, containers and tape.

10. (Currently Amended): ~~[[The]]~~ A humidity-dependent antibacterial food storing article according to claim 7, wherein ~~the humidity-dependent antibacterial powdery composition is coated on the food storing article in a coating film comprising a humidity-dependent antibacterial powdery composition coated on the food storing article in a coating film, said humidity-dependent antibacterial powdery composition comprising:~~

a volatile oily antibacterial substance and a water-soluble film forming agent, wherein the behavior of release of the antibacterial substance changes depending on humidity,

wherein said humidity-dependent antibacterial powdery composition comprises an aggregate of hygroscopic spherical-shaped capsule particles enclosing the volatile oily antibacterial substance;

said capsule particles comprise a water-soluble film forming agent; and

said volatile oily antibacterial substance is an isothiocyanate ester.

11. (Currently Amended): The humidity-dependent antibacterial food storing article according to claim 7, wherein ~~the food storing article includes~~ the humidity-dependent antibacterial powdery composition is in the resin in a uniformly dispersed state.